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of the volume is given over to the methods of preparation of microscopic slides, culture methods, and suggestions for equipping the laboratory and the departmental library.

In the study of plant morphology there can be no doubt as to the value of such outlines in the hands of the pupil. In the case of physiological experiments however, since in secondary schools they must be largely in the nature of class demonstration, it may well be questioned whether the outlines in this and other manuals do not detract from, rather than add to, the value of such work. In so far as they suggest the conclusions to be derived from the exercise, they render the student less dependent upon his own accurate observation of the details of the experiment.

The portion of the book most open to unfavorable criticism is that devoted to ecology. Especial attention is directed to this part in the preface, and it is offered as "at least an outline for the treatment of ecology as a scientific subject," since the authors believe "that it is quite possible to illustrate even to beginners something of the kind of quantitative discussion of variation in environment and the response of plants to changed (?) conditions, which must distinguish the ecology of the future." On turning to the treatment we find the subject introduced by "Parasitic and Carnivorous Plants" and "How Plants Protect Themselves from Animals." It may well be doubted whether these two chapters will form the introduction to the "ecology of the future." They smack much more of the unscientific past even than of the present. The chapter on "Pollination of Flowers" defeats its aim by explaining how the pupil may tell the variously pollinated flower types without recourse to the field. Further, the rules given are open to serious question. The remainder of the section is of better quality though there is certainly room here for improvement both in content and order of presentation.

E. N. TRANSEAU

NORMAL SCHOOL
Charleston, Ill.

Studies in Psychopathology. By BORIS SIDIS. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co., 1907. Reprinted from the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*. Pp. 73.

This little pamphlet, consisting of papers reprinted from the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal* is interesting to the teacher and student of child-life because of the impressive instances given of the persistent force of early impressions. Various persons suffering with symptoms of nervous and mental disturbance were examined by inducing a "hypnoidal" state. This state is not so deep as that of ordinary hypnotism, but enables the investigator to bring to light incidents not remembered in normal consciousness. In all the cases cited some thrilling or painful experience of child-life, which had quite passed from conscious remembrance, was revealed as being responsible for the pathological conditions. The significance for the teacher or parent is of course in the field of prevention. A horrible or frightful event, or association with some depraved or morbid character, may leave impressions which in later life may cause mental unbalance.

J. H. T.